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PROGRAM Huntley-Brinkley Report

STATION WRC-TV and NBC Network

P. P. S. Kerker Flower

DATE February 3, 1965 6:30 P.M.

CITY Washington, D.C.

INDICTED FOR VIOLATION OF PASSPORT LAW

CHET HUNTLEY: "A former soldier, indicted and arrested only yesterday for selling passports to communist agents, pleaded guilty today in Federal Court. The proceedings have moved so fast that many questions about the strange case have gone unanswered. Floyd Kalber reports from Chicago:"

FLOYD KALBER: "Twenty-five year old Paul Myer pleaded guilty in Federal Court today, to a four-count indictment, charging him with violation of the federal passport law. He specifically is charged with fraudulently obtaining fifteen passports in Chicago, and handing them over to Soviet agents in East Berlin. From this point on, most of the story is a mystery. After posting bail this afternoon, Myer explained:"

PAUL MYER WAS SEEN IN CLOSE-UP IN FILM CLIP AS HE WAS INTERVIEWED.

MYER: "Well, I came back from Europe in June of '63 -- I turned myself in to the CIA and the FBI. Since that time they have been aware of my whereabouts. They know everything that has happened."

KALBER: "Where did this passport idea originate?"

MYER: "I'm afraid I can't say that.

(QUESTION UNINTELLIGIBLE)

MYER: "I'm afraid I can't say that either."

KALBER: "How long were you selling these passports?"

MYER: "I can't say -- I'm sorry."

KALBER: "Did you sell any passports?"

MYER: "No I didn't."

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KALBER: "Why did you tell your story to the CIA so promptly?"

MYER: "Well, because I just thought it was part of my duty to do that."

KALBER: "When you revealed this to the CIA, what did they say, at the time?"

MYER: "M-m-m, they didn't say anything."

KALBER: "Well, did they take it down, or what --"

MYER: "Oh, yes, yes, they took down the statements, but I signed nothing for them."

KALBER: "You just walked out afterwards?"

MYER: "No, then I was in contact with the FBI after that."

KALBER: "What did they say?"

MYER: "They didn't say anything, I guess more than the usual things that they say. They just took down statements, asked me questions, and that was it."

KALBER: "Did you sign any statements -- did you sign them?"

MYER: "Ah-h-h-h, yes, a few statements I did sign."

KALBER: "And they just let you go?"

MYER: "And they just let me go."

KALBER: "They let Myer go on bond this afternoon. He could be sentenced to 20 years in prison, but the unanswered questions are, who got the passports, why did they get them, and what use has been made of them? Floyd Kalber, NBC News, Chicago."